

TRUTH AND  
RECONCILIATION  
COMMISSION OF SOUTH  
AFRICA

**Apartheid** ("the state of being apart"), was a system of racial segregation in South Africa enforced through legislation by the National Party (NP), the governing party from 1948 to 1994. Under apartheid, the rights, associations, and movements of the majority black inhabitants and other ethnic groups were curtailed and Afrikanerm



- ◉ Sharpeville Massacre, 1960   
in 1974 UN tried to get South Africa out of  
the UN.
- ◉ The Soweto uprising, 1976
- ◉ the South African government ended  
apartheid in 1994
- ◉ Nelson Mandela became president  
when apartheid was ended.

# Nelson Mandela



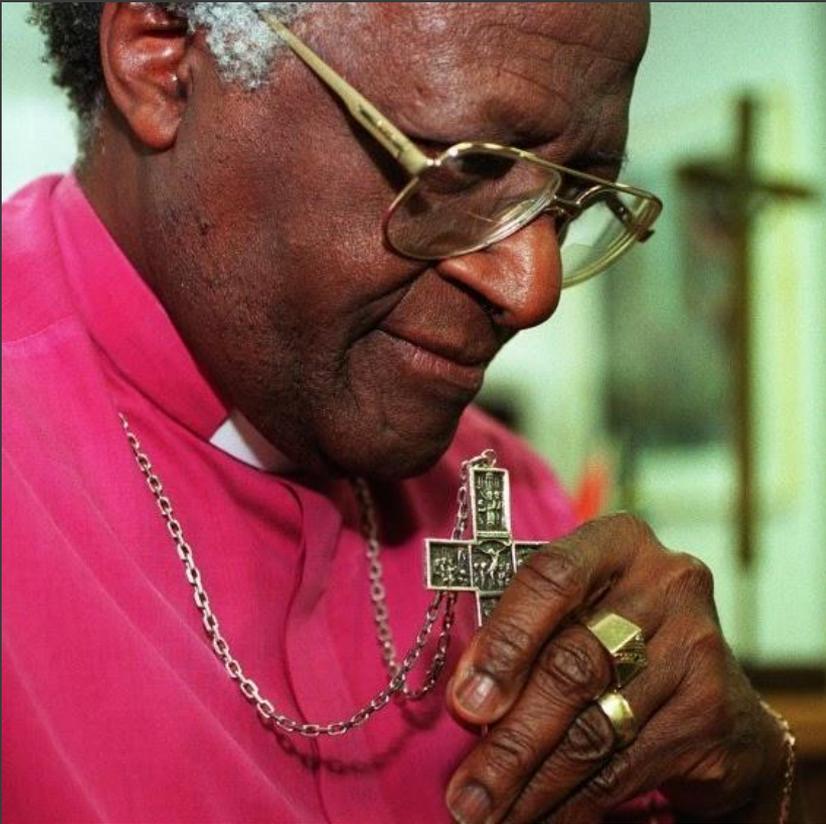
**Truth and Reconciliation Commission  
in South Africa was established by  
the Government of National Unity  
based on the Promotion of National  
Unity and Reconciliation Act, No. 34  
of 1995**



## The commission was tasked with

- ⦿ investigating human rights abuses committed from 1960 to 1994
- ⦿ allowing victims the opportunity to tell their story;
- ⦿ granting amnesty;
- ⦿ constructing an impartial historical record of the past;
- ⦿ drafting a reparations policy.





**Archbishop Desmond Tutu  
(the chair of the commission)**



**Alex Boraine (the deputy  
chair)**

# THE COMMITTEES OF THE TRC:

- Human Rights Violations (HRV) Committee to investigate human rights abuses that took place between 1960 and 1994, based on statements made to the TRC.
- Reparation and Rehabilitation (R&R) Committee to provide victim support to formulate policy proposals and recommendations on rehabilitation and healing of survivors.
- Amnesty Committee(AC) to consider that applications for amnesty were done in accordance with the provisions of the Act.
- + REGISTER OF RECONCILIATION

# Victim's role



- 22,000 statements from victims
- Public hearings at which victims gave testimony about gross violations of human rights, defined in the Act as torture, killings, disappearances and abductions, and severe ill treatment suffered at the hands of the apartheid state

# Indictees

Ms Winnie Madikizela Mandela

"With our boxes of matches and our necklaces we shall liberate this country."



# Indictees



Several high-level members of the former police were convicted for the attempted murder of Reverend Frank Chikane in 1989.

# Indictees



The trial of former minister of defense Magnus Malan and nineteen others were charged together with other former senior military officers for murdering 13 people (including seven children) in the KwaMakhutha massacre in 1987

# The importance of commission in post-conflict situation

- 1) The TRC TRC allowed victims of apartheid to be heard.
- 2) The TRC made detailed recommendations for a reparations program:
  - Financial
  - symbolic
  - community
- 3) Also the Commission recommended to reform society and political system to include faith communities, businesses, the judiciary, prisons, the armed forces, health sector, media and educational institutions in a reconciliation process.

**THANK YOU**

**FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**